

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 NEW DE 03779 130814Z

11

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /028 W
----- 128047

R 121220Z MAR 76
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4623
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMCONSUL BOMBAY
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMCONSUL MADRAS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 3779

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, IN

SUBJECT: RAJYA SABHA ELECTIONS COMING

1. THE BIENNIAL POLLING FOR 69 RAJYA SABHA SEATS WILL TAKE PLACE IN STATE LEGISLATURES AROUND THE COUNTRY FROM MARCH 25 TO 27. THE CONGRESS' LARGE MAJORITIES IN THE MOST STATES ALMOST ENSURE THAT THE ELECTIONS WILL RAISE CONGRESS REPRESENTATION IN THE RAJYA SABHA TO A SOLID TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY (IT IS NOW 64 PERCENT).

2. THE DEADLINE FOR FILING NOMINATIONS EXPIRED MARCH 10. CONGRES TICKETS HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO FIVE MEMBERS OF THE UNION COUNCIL OF MINISTERS: BANSI LAL (MINISTER OF DEFENSE); P. C. SETHI (MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS); OM MEHTA (MINISTER OF STATE FOR HOME AFFAIRS); V. GADGIL (MINISTER OF STATE FOR DEFENSE PRODUCTION); BIPIN PAL DAS (DEPUTY MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS. MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING, I. K. GUJRAL, WAS NOT INCLUDED ON THE LIST OF CONGRESS NOMINEES, BUT WAS NAMED MARCH 11 TO FILL THE LONG VACANT AMBASSADORSHIP IN MOSCOW. ACCORDING TO OUR SOURCES, MRS. GANDHI, SANJAY AND CONGRESS PRESIDENT D. K. BAROOAH TOOK THE LEAD IN SELECTING CONGRESS CANDIDATES TO THE RAJYA SABHA. SANJAY WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN OBTAINING A TICKET FOR YOUTH CONGRESS PRESIDENT AMBIKA SONI.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 NEW DE 03779 130814Z

3. THE CONGRESS NOMINATIONS TO THE UPPER HOUSE OF WEST BENGAL FINANCE MINISTER SANKAR GHOSH AND SENIOR CONGRESS OFFICIALS MRS. PURABI MUKHERJEE AND A. R. ANTULAY HAVE REINFORCED SPECULATION THAT A CABINET CHANGE MAY TAKE PLACE OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS. GHOSH PROVED A COMPETENT AND HARD WORKING TECHNICIAN IN WEST BENGAL. MUKHERJEE AND ANTULAY ARE PERSONAL LOYALISTS OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S, AN ATTRIBUTE THAT HAS TAKEN ON SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE FOR THOSE SEEKING HIGH OFFICE SINCE THE EMERGENCY. ALL THREE ARE POSSIBLE CANDIDATES FRO THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS.

4. THE TREND TOWARD UNITY AMONG THE NON-COMMUNIST OPPOSITION PARTIES (NEW DELHI 3492) WAS NOT REFLECTED IN THE NOMINATING PROCESS FOR THE RAJYA SABHA. THE OPPOSITION PARTIES HAVE STUCK TO THEIR LABELS IN CHOOSING CANDIDATES. IT IS STILL POSSIBLE, HOWEVER, THAT THE OPPOSITION COULD FORGE A REASONABLY UNITED FRONT AGAINST CONGRESSBY POLLING TIME STILL TWO WEEKS AWAY.
SCHNEIDER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: UPPER HOUSE, LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS, ELECTION CANDIDATES, ELECTION FORECASTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976NEWDE03779
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760095-0629
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760367/aaaacgnq.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 MAY 2004 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <31 AUG 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RAJYA SABHA ELECTIONS COMING
TAGS: PINT, IN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006